

Message Text

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12
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

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R 300611Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1907
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL PERTH
AMCONSUL SYDNEY

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BGEN, BTRA, ECIN, ECON, OCON, OTRA, JA
SUBJ: ASIAN PACIFIC COUNCIL OF AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
(APCAC): JAKARTA CONFERENCE

REFS: A) STATE 209358, B) HONG KONG 2832

1. WE CONTRACTED RAYMOND KATHE, APCAC VICE CHAIRMAN WHO IS COORDINATING ARRANGEMENTS FOR JAKARTA MEETING IN ABSENCE OF BEEBY, AND CONVEYED TO HIM THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS EXPRESSED REFTEL A. WE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN REPRESENTED BY CHIEF OF U.S. MISSION IN HOST COUNTRY OF PREVIOUS APCAC MEETINGS, AND CITED CON-

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SIDERABLE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN DEPARTMENT AND POST PRIOR TO MEET-

ING TO ADVISE APCAC MEMBERS OF USG POSITION ON ISSUES. KATHE SAID
HE UNDERSTOOD DEPARTMENTS POSITION BUT SAID MEMBERS IN GENERAL STILL

WISH INVITE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE TO PARTICIPATE IN JAKARTA
MEETING.

2. THE AGENDA FOR THE JAKARTA MEETING IS NOT RESTRICTED TO INTERNAL
APCAC MATTERS BUT INCLUDES DISCUSSION ON VARIETY OF TOPICS UNDER
FOLLOWING MAJOR HEADINGS: (A) PROTECTIONISM, NATIONALISM, AND
THIRD WORLD-ISM; (B) REGIONAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY; (C) TAXATION, A
GROWING DETERRENT TO U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INVESTMENT AND COMM-
ERICAL STABILITY AND COMPETITIVENESS; AND (D) EFFECTS OF EXTRA-
TERRITORIAL ACTION ON ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS ABROAD,
INCLUDING OECD GUIDELINES FOR MNC'S.

3. APCAC CHAIRMAN EDWIN BEEBY, ALTHOUGH TRANSFERRED BY HIS COMPANY,
WESTINGHOUSE, TO ITS PITTSBURG OFFICE (TEL 412-255-4401), IS STILL
CHAIRMAN UNTIL THE ELECTION AT JAKARTA MEETING AND IS IN CONSTANT
COMMUNICATION WITH APCAC TOKYO OFFICE. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO TALK
DIRECTLY WITH BEEBY.

4. COMMENT: THERE APPEARS TO BE A DIVISION OF VIEWS WITHING APCAC
BETWEEN THOSE WHO BELIEVE APCAC MEETINGS SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO
MEMBERS BECAUSE PRESENCE OF USG OFFICIAL STENDS TO DAMPEN OPEN
DISCUSSION, WHILE ANOTHER GROUP FAVORS GETTING USG POSITION ON VAR-
IOUS POLICY ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE MEMBERS DIRECT FROM WASHINGTON.

5. WE BELIEVE THE PRESENCE OF DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE AT APCAC
MEETINGS ENHANCES OUR RELATIONS WITH THE LOCAL AMCHAMS, AND WOULD
FAVOR PRESENCE OF DEPARTMENT REP IF POSSIBLE. IN ALL CANDOR, HOW-
EVER, THERE IS NO STRONG JUSTIFICATION FOR SENDING DEPARTMENT REP-
RESENTATIVE TO TWO "ANNUAL" APCAC MEETINGS PER YEAR, PARTICULARLY
AS APCAC REPRESENTATIVES HAVE DIRECT ACCESS TO DEPARTMENT AT AN-
NUAL CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING AND U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING
IN WASHINGTON. AMCONSUL HONG KONG'S SUMMARY OF THE MARCH APCAC
MEETING IN HONG KONG (REF B) INDICATES THAT APCAC DOES NOT YET SERVE
AS AN IMPORTANT FORUM FOR ADVANCING USG ECONOMIC INTERESTS. WE
MIGHT BETTER HELP TO ACCOMPLISH THAT OBJECTIVE BY CONTINUING TO
WORK CLOSELY WITH LOCAL AMCHAMS AT OUR RESPECTIVE POSTS.

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